

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)	Group Art Unit: 2176
)	(Parent Application)
Michael D. Myers et al.)	Examiner: Hong, S.
)	(Parent Application)
Serial No.: (Div. of 09/153,786))	
)	
Filed: Herewith)	August 27, 2001
)	
For: DOCUMENT CONVERSION AND)	San Bernardino, California
NETWORK DATABASE SYSTEM)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

In the specification at page 6, delete the paragraph beginning on line 8, line 8,
and insert:

--A principal feature of the present invention is that the primary computer 12 is implemented for automatically customizing selected documents of the provider to identify the subscriber, and optionally the client, and reformatting the selected documents to facilitate navigation therein by the subscriber's clients. The clients selectively access and navigate the documents using communications between the client computer 16 and the client server 22C. The primary computer 12 includes a CDROM drive 24 for receiving and inputting source disks 25 that may be periodically received from the provider 13. The computer 12 may also include a high-density disk drive 26 for writing processed counterparts of the received data on output disks

27 for delivery to the primary server 22A. It will be understood that the CDRom drive 24 and the high-density drive 26 can be a single device, and further that the processed data can be transmitted to the primary server 22A over the network 18 instead of being delivered on the high-density disks. A suitable primary server 22A can be implemented with the server computer 22 running WINDOWS NT 4.0, MICROSOFT INTERNET INFORMATION server 4.0, MICROSOFT INDEX server, MICROSOFT SITE-SERVER EXPRESS, MICROSOFT ACTIVE SERVER PAGES, MICROSOFT SQL SERVER 6.5, and MICROSOFT TRANSACTION SERVER that are commercially available programs of Microsoft Corp. of Redmond, WA, the uppercase terms being believed to be respective trademarks of Microsoft. According to the present invention, the server 22A is further programmed for authorizing and tracking client access as described below in connection with a subscriber and client database that can be implemented in the above-identified SQL Server program.--

At page 7, delete the paragraph beginning on line 21 and insert:

--As shown in Figure 2, a document conversion process 50 is operable when the source disk 25 is mounted in the CD drive 24. The process includes a conventional decompress step 52 wherein compressed file archives of the provider 13 on the disk 25 are decompressed and each of the resulting files is copied as ASCII text in a suitable hard disk memory working directory 53 of the primary computer 12. Next, a suitable word processor program is entered in a start word process step 54 and a conversion macro 56 is invoked for processing the source text as described herein. Suitable word processor programs include MICROSOFT WORD 7.0 and MAC WORD, as appropriate for suitable IBM-compatible and MCINTOSH implementations of the primary computer 12, each program being available from Microsoft Corp., MCINTOSH being

believed to be a trademark of Apple Computer Corp. In each of these implementations, the conversion macro 56 is appropriately coded in VISUAL BASIC, also available from Microsoft Corp.--

At page 13, delete the paragraph beginning on line 7 and insert:

--As shown in Fig. 6, clients of any of the subscribers can also access the default web page 134 from a client computer 16 as described above in connection with Fig. 5. As shown in Fig. 6, a client navigation path 150 permits a client to register using a new client selection option 152 from the default page 134. After appropriate information concerning the client is entered using a series of screens, a username and password for the client is generated at the primary server 22A. The information required from the client can include last name, first name, middle initial, mailing address, telephone number, a personal password, and an e-mail address. Of course some of this information can be omitted, particularly if it has already been provided to the SQL client database, a minimal requirement being that there be sufficient information transmitted from the client to distinguish from other clients. As indicated in Fig. 5, the username and password information is not immediately available to the client as described above in connection with Fig. 5, being subsequently e-mailed (with instructions for using the site). It will be understood that the subscriber can communicate the subscriber's username or any other predetermined designation given to the patient for permitting the client to complete the registration process, which designation can serve as temporary authorization pending granting of the patient's username and password. Also, the client's permanent password can be either chosen by the client or generated by the server 22A. Once

registered, patients have access from the default page 134 and a client login window 154 to the subscriber's home page 146 and the index page 148.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1- 4, without prejudice.

Please add claims 5-9, as follows:

5. (New) A method for processing data requests from clients of particular practitioners on a distributed computer network, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) maintaining a main document database;
- (b) registering the practitioners;
- (c) processing document selections of the practitioners to identify respective home document sets of the practitioners;
- (d) identifying requesting users as clients of corresponding practitioners;
- (e) processing client requests for permitting access by particular clients to the home document sets of corresponding practitioners; and
- (f) transmitting requested pages of the home document sets to the particular clients.

6. (New) The method of claim 8, further comprising maintaining a practitioner database, and including practitioner-specific portions of the practitioner database in pages being transmitted to the particular clients.

7. (New) The method of claim 8, further comprising maintaining a client database, and including client-specific portions of the client database in pages being transmitted to the particular clients.

8. (New) The method of claim 10, further comprising

maintaining client data and/or statistics of the particular clients in the client database.

9. (New) The method of claim 11, further comprising tracking client access to the home document sets.

REMARKS

Claims 5-9 are in this application. By this amendment, claims 1 and 4 have been canceled; and claims 5-9 have been added. Examination of this application as amended is respectfully requested. No new matter is added.

The specification has been amended to correct the informalities including those noted by the Examiner in the parent application, as well as grammatical and typographical errors. Applicant is preparing a CD ROM version in accordance with the Patent Business Goals Final Rule of 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 of 8 September 2000. A corresponding amendment to the specification will be submitted when full particulars of the CD ROM are available.

The new claims 5-9 correspond to claims 8-12 in the parent application which were canceled therein in response to a restriction requirement. The new claim 5 finds support in the specification at page 11, lines 17-22, page 12, lines 17-30, and from page 13, line 7 to page 14, line 11. New claims 6 and 7 find support at page 14, lines 12-22; and claims 8 and 9 have support at page 6, line 33 to page 7, line 3, and page 12, lines 17-21 of the specification. The new claims 5-9 are believed to be patentably distinct from the prior art in that none of the references, either alone or in combination, discloses or suggests Applicants' method for honoring client requests for network access to particular pages of documents that are selected by registered practitioners (claim 5). Claims 6 and 7 further require customization of the documents with practitioner-specific and client-specific data, respectively. Claim 8 also requires maintaining

client data and/or statistics, and claim 9 further requires monitoring client access tracking.

In view of the above, it is believed that this application, including each of the claims 5-9, is in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully requested. If for some reason the Examiner considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that a telephone call be placed to the undersigned so that issuance of a patent can be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

SHELDON & MAK

Date: 29 August 2001

By Stephen R. Seccombe
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AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

Note: Deletions by [brackets]; additions by --dashes--.

At page 6, the paragraph beginning on line 8:

A principal feature of the present invention is that the primary computer 12 is implemented for automatically customizing selected documents of the provider to identify the subscriber, and optionally the client, and reformatting the selected documents to facilitate navigation therein by the subscriber's clients. The clients selectively access and navigate the documents using communications between the client computer 16 and the client server 22C. The primary computer 12 includes a CDROM drive 24 for receiving and inputting source disks 25 that may be periodically received from the provider 13. The computer 12 may also include a high-density disk drive 26 for writing processed counterparts of the received data on output disks 27 for delivery to the primary server 22A. It will be understood that the CDROM drive 24 and the high-density drive 26 can be a single device, and further that the processed data can be transmitted to the primary server 22A over the network 18 instead of being delivered on the high-density disks. A suitable primary server 22A can be implemented with the server computer 22 running [Windows] --WINDOWS-- NT 4.0, [Microsoft Internet Information] --MICROSOFT INTERNET INFORMATION-- server 4.0, [Microsoft Index] --MICROSOFT INDEX-- server, [Microsoft Site-server Express, Microsoft Active Server Pages, Microsoft SQL Server] --MICROSOFT SITE-SERVER EXPRESS, MICROSOFT ACTIVE SERVER PAGES, MICROSOFT SQL SERVER-- 6.5, and [Microsoft Transaction Server] --MICROSOFT TRANSACTION SERVER-- that are commercially available programs of Microsoft

Corp. of --Redmond--, WA--, the uppercase terms being believed to be respective trademarks of Microsoft--. According to the present invention, the server 22A is further programmed for authorizing and tracking client access as described below in connection with a subscriber and client database that can be implemented in the above-identified SQL Server program.

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